CHILD PROTECTION IN EMERGENCIES

THE ANGUILLA EXPERIENCE
Hurricane Irma hit Anguilla on 6th September 2017.

Winds of 185 mph with gusts up to 225 mph.

Homes, schools, ports, hospital and health centres, churches, offices, hotels and restaurants etc were devastated. 4 months before electricity restored to entire island.
THE RESPONSE

• NATIONAL EMERGENCY OPERATIONS CENTRE ACTIVATED
• EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT GROUP MET AT LEAST TWICE DAILY
• GETTING CHILDREN BACK TO SCHOOL WAS A PRIORITY
• ALL SCHOOLS WERE EITHER DAMAGED OR DESTROYED. SCHOOLS ARE NOT DESIGNATED SHELTERS
• ASSESSMENTS MADE OF THE STATE OF SCHOOLS – REPAIR OR REBUILD
• WHERE DECISIONS MADE TO REBUILD, MATERIALS WERE DONATED TO THE COMMUNITY
THE RESPONSE
MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-Agency COLLABORATION

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
• CCRIF FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR REPAIRS
• PROCUREMENT RULES RELAXED

MINISTRIES OF EDUCATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
• REPAIR OF ROOFS
• ADJUSTMENTS OF CLASSROOMS (ONE BECAME TWO)
• LEASE OF BUILDINGS – ONE SCHOOL WAS RELOCATED TO AN APARTMENT COMPLEX, ONE COMPONENT OF SECONDARY SCHOOL ALSO RELOCATED TO RENTED ACCOMMODATION
• SHIFT SYSTEM AGREED FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL DUE TO REDUCED SPACE
THE RESPONSE
MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-AGENCY COLLABORATION

UNICEF
• TENTS, DRINKING WATER, HYGIENE KITS, MOSQUITO NETS
• RETURN TO HAPPINESS PROGRAMME FOR CHILDREN; TRAIN THE TRAINERS

DEPARTMENT OF SPORTS
• STRUCTURED SPORTS PROGRAMME

PARENTS
• CLEAN UP

UK GOVERNMENT
• GENERATORS TO PROVIDE ELECTRICITY AND RUNNING WATER. ALL SCHOOLS HAVE CISTERNES.
• GENERATORS ALSO DEPLOYED AT MAJOR SUPERMARKETS TO ENSURE THEY REMAINED OPEN.
THE RESPONSE
MULTI-SECTORAL/ MULTI-Agency COLLABORATION

All schools (including 4 SEN centres) opened on 9th October 2017.

• Sandwiches and drinking water provided to students during the day
• Uniform rules relaxed and ironing facilities made available to parents at schools
• Private sector donated classroom and technological resources and student backpacks with supplies
• Duty concessions offered on importation of laptops for 4th to 6th formers.

Ministry of Labour and Social Security Board

• Temporary unemployment benefit for 6 months

Red Cross

• Small grant scheme
LESSONS LEARNT

• IMPROVE MECHANISMS FOR TRACKING OF CHILDREN WHO LEAVE THE COUNTRY AS A RESULT OF A DISASTER.

• IMPROVE BORDER SECURITY.

• NEED FOR PROTOCOL FOR ACCEPTANCE/INTEGRATION OF STUDENTS MIGRATING FROM AFFECTED COUNTRIES.

• PSYCHO-SOCIAL SUPPORT FOR TEACHERS AND OTHER ADULTS INVOLVED IN THE CARE OF CHILDREN.